

Section II. (Amendments to the Claims)

1. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method of obtaining nanoparticles for the administration of at least one active ingredient, with a diameter less than 1 μ m, ~~characterised in that it comprises comprising~~ the steps of:
 - a) preparing an aqueous solution of a hyaluronic acid salt;
 - b) preparing an aqueous solution of a cationic polymer;
 - c) adding a polyanionic salt to the solution of the hyaluronic acid salt;
 - d) stir-mixing the solutions resulting from steps b) and c), spontaneously obtaining the nanoparticles,
 wherein the active ingredient is dissolved in one of resulting solutions a), b) or c) or in the suspension of nanoparticles obtained in step d) to be absorbed in the nanoparticles.
2. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the hyaluronic acid salt solution is prepared at a concentration of between 0.50 and 5 mg/mL.
3. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the cationic polymer solution is prepared at a concentration of between 0.5 and 5 mg/mL.
4. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the anionic salt is added at a concentration of between 0.25 and 1.00 mg/mL.
5. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the active ingredient comprises is a macromolecule.
6. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 5, ~~wherein characterised in that~~, if the macromolecule has a lyophilic nature, said macromolecule is dissolved, before incorporating it in one of solutions a) or b), in a mixture of water and a water-miscible organic solvent, so that the concentration of the organic solvent in the end solution is less than 10% by weight.
7. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~

wherein the organic solvent comprises ~~is~~ acetonitrile.

8. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the hyaluronic acid salt comprises ~~is~~ sodium salt.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cationic polymer comprises ~~is~~ chitosan.

10. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cationic polymer comprises ~~is~~ collagen or gelatine.

11. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 10~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the polyanionic salt comprises ~~is~~ sodium tripoliphosphate.

12. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the proportion of hyaluronic acid:cationic polymer:polyanionic salt in the end solution is between 1:0.5:0.1 and 1:10:2.

13. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the proportion of hyaluronic acid:cationic polymer: polyanionic salt in the end solution is between 1:1:0.15 and 1:10:1.5.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ further comprising an additional step e), after step d), of ~~lyophilising~~ lyophilizing the nanoparticles obtained in the presence of reduced quantities of sugars.

15. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method according to claim 14, further comprising ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ an additional step f), after step e), of regenerating the ~~lyophilised~~ lyophilizing nanoparticles.

16. (Currently amended) Nanoparticles for the administration of an active ingredient, ~~which can be obtained by~~ the method of claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 15~~.

17. (Currently amended) Nanoparticles for the administration of an active ingredient, ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ comprising a hyaluronic acid salt, a cationic polymer, a

polyanionic salt and ~~an~~ the active ingredient.

18. (Currently amended) Nanoparticles according to claim 17, ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the active ingredient comprises ~~is~~ a macromolecule.

19. (Currently amended) Nanoparticles according to ~~either of claim 17 claims 17 and 18,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the hyaluronic acid salt comprises ~~is~~ sodium salt.

20. (Currently amended) Nanoparticles according to claim 17 ~~any of claims 17 to 19,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cationic polymer comprises ~~is~~ chitosan.

21. (Currently amended) Nanoparticles according to claim 17 ~~any of claims 17 to 19~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cationic polymer comprises ~~is~~ collagen or gelatine.

22. (Currently amended) Nanoparticles according to claim 17 ~~any of claims 17 to 21,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the polyanionic salt comprises ~~is~~ sodium triphosphate.

23. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical~~ A pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition, comprising ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ nanoparticles according to claim 16 ~~claims 16 to 22~~.

24. (Currently amended) ~~Use of nanoparticles according to any of claims 16 to 22 in the~~ preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for ~~the~~ topical or parenteral administration or ~~on~~ administration to mucous membranes of an active ingredient to a subject in need thereof, said pharmaceutical composition comprising nanoparticles according to claim 17.

25. (New) A pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition, comprising nanoparticles according to claim 17.

26. (New) A method of making nanoparticles for administration of at least one active ingredient, with a diameter of less than 1 µm, comprising:

providing an aqueous solution of a hyaluronic acid salt;

adding a polyanionic salt to the solution of the hyaluronic acid salt;

mixing the solution of the hyaluronic acid salt to which said polyanionic salt has been added,

with an aqueous solution of a cationic polymer, to yield said nanoparticles.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, further comprising incorporating said active ingredient in said nanoparticles.

28. (New) A method of treating a subject with an active ingredient, comprising administration to said subject of nanoparticles according to claim 17.